The Brethren Evangelist.

PUBLISHED AT THE BRETHREN PUBLISHING HOUSE. "Let Us go on Unto Perfection." TERMS, $1.50 PER ANNUM IN ADVANCE.

VOLUME VIII. ASHLAND, OHIO., AUGUST 4, 1886. NUMBER 31.

My Prayer.

Being perplexed I say,
"Lord make it right.
Night is as day to thee,
Darkness is light.
I am afraid to touch
Things that involve so much.
My trembling hand may shake,
My skillful hand may break;
Thine can make no mistake."
Being in doubt I say,
"Lord make it plain!
Which is the true, safe way?
Which would be vain?
I am not wise to know,
Nor sure of foot to go;
My blind eyes cannot see
What is so clear too Thee.
Lord make it clear to me."

SELECTED.

Miami Valley Items.

This is Friday evening, and as last EVANGELIST announced that Brother and Sister Perry were in the "Valley," we are looking for them to drop in on us any minute. We trust that they well spend Sabbath with us.

There are several of our young folks here who contemplate attending Ashland College this winter.

We had a very pleasant time on our missionary tour, taking into consideration the long drives and extreme heat. We were gone just 8 days, during which we drove over 140 miles, preached 10 sermons, and visited four counties.

At Eldorado we preached in the United Brethren church. Our first evening was dark and rainy and therefore did not get a very large congregation. The second evening the church was well filled.

In this locality there are but three members—Bro. and Sister Holman and Sister Lucy Stephens. But we have many friends and sympathizers, foremost amongst which is our half-brother Samuel Stephens, Sister Lucy's husband. He was expelled from the G. B's many years ago and has so far not united with any organization. But as he is still a lover of Jesus, and a friend to the Brethren, we expect that our relationship will soon become closer.

While here, the eldest daughter of the Stephens family expressed a determination to give herself to the Lord and unite with the church. Although young, being only 13 years old, she manifests a piety and faith far beyond her years. May the spirit of God so guide her that as she encreases in years, she may increase in love, wisdom and piety.

Our visit to North Star will long be remembered by us. The congregation here is small, but what it lacks in numbers, it makes up in zeal and piety. I never yet visited a congregation where I felt so much at home in such a short time.

Our headquarters while here was with Dr. Pearson, and a happier time it would be impossible for us to enjoy.

I forgot to mention that Sister Melissa Baker of the Lexington church accompanied us.

We had hardly arrived at North Star before brother and Sister Joe Oaks of the Pleasant Hill church arrived to swell and enliven the occasion.

The Brethren here hold regular meetings in the Methodist church. Brethren Pearson and Gilbert hold forth the word to the people regularly. This is the N. Gilbert whose name we frequently see in the EVANGELIST.

We were very glad to meet and enjoy such a pleasant time with old brother and sister Oaks. We had met them before at Pleasant Hill. May the Lord guide them in their old days, giving them strength and courage to the last.

This church was organized some time last year I believe by Bro. E. L. Miller. And we think it is impossible to find a church where there is stronger fraternal love than at North Star.

Our meetings were well attended. We had a good little meeting in the afternoon of Friday. Of course at this busy season we could not expect a large attendance at that time of day.

At Pleasant Hill our meetings went off with the usual enthusiasm. Large congregations good singing and strict attention. Although there are several here on the verge of uniting with us, and of whom we expected a few this visit, we are far from being discouraged. We have taken their cases to the Lord, and we will try to await with patience the result.

We preached at the Presbyterian church in Covington on Sunday afternoon. There is an organization here but no meeting house. We had hoped that the Covington and Pleasant Hill churches would have united, until the Covington Brethren would have been strong enough to have a building of their own. These congregations are only four miles apart. However the Brethren thought differently, and we have nothing to say. If we preach here anymore, we will have to fine some other time than Sunday afternoon to do it in, as it is a little too hard to drive through the hot sun and preach three times every Sunday. Besides it gives us no opportunity for rest or visiting of the Brethren and friends.

Bro. David Ditmer and family of Georgetown came up to attend the meetings on Sabbath. Bro. David and wife were expelled some sixteen years ago, for advocating single mode of feet-washing. We have promised to preach for them at Georgetown on our next visit, when we hope they and others will identify themselves with the Brethren. This will make our next missionary tour still more extensive.

I forgot to say in the proper place, that brother Shock of North Star, son-in-law to brother Pearson, has some idea of attending Ashland College. He is a bright and intelligent young man, with a large supply of zeal. We would be glad to hear that he had completely dedicated himself to the Lord, and is making the necessary preparations to enter the ministry. He has every qualification to make this branch of the Lord's service a success.

In our next issue we will be able to publish our appointments for the next trip.

I was going to say something about the decision in the Dayton lawsuit, but I see that in last issue some of the brethren expressed their opinion very freely. Brethren, remember that we are to submit to the "powers that be." I have heard Judge Elleott spoken of as a fair and impartial judge, and he has the confidence of a large body of citizens. It is impossible to expect others who are not as deeply interested as we are in this matter, to see it as we see it. Those of us who were present at the trial remember how the evidence from the different sides conflicted and it is unreasonable to expect strangers to comprehend all the entricacies brought about by this division. While we repudiate Elder ruling and Annual Meeting, it is undoubtedly the great power and authority of the German Baptists, and it is no wonder that its decisions and rulings were taken into consideration at this trial. We were willing that the courts should decide this matter for us, now let us abide the decision like men and Christians. Let us be charitable in our opinions of the court Our criticism should be tempered with moderation.

The concluding paragraph of the Judge ought to set the mind at rest as to his good will and sympathy. After rendering his decision he concludes:

> The Court has been anxious since the development of the facts in this case to come to a conclusion somewhat different. It has felt that it would be eminently fair and liberal, looking to the mere questions of policy and morals, that this church property should be equitably divided between the parties. Both the contending organizations are opposed to litigation: the great Dunker family, of whatever name or order, is a church of peace and good will. Both the Conservatives and *Progressives* are earnestly engaged in going about doing good, and bringing men under the illuminating influences of the Son of Righteousness. The law, as we interpret it, does not permit the Court to make such a disposition of the case as we wish, nevertheless this suggestion is modestly made to the parties: That they agree that the property may be sold, the proceeds divided, *one-third* to the Progressives and the residue to the Conservatives, to be invested in the building of churches for the use of the Dayton membership respectively.

Bro. Miller, commenting on this says:

"Good advice, but why did he not make that the decision from a point of equity in law?"

If you had read it over carefully, the reason is given. "The law, as we interpret it, does not permit the Court to make such a disposition of the case as we wish." This ought to satisfy the mind as to intentional injustice or partiality. No matter what we may hope, think and believe in this matter, it is very hard to make every one understand and believe that we are the original church, after most of us have been expelled and severed ourselves from the old church. These are facts that will not admit of much dispute, so let us be charitable in our opinions. It is neither prudent nor in good taste for us to put ourselves in opposition to the Courts of Ohio.

The Dayton church has my earnest sympathy, and I would to the Lord that it was in my power to manifest my sympathy more substantially. I can heartily say Amen to the remarks of the editor in last issue. As he says "it may be the Lord's will to open before them a more desirable door, and lead them into pastures that are more satisfying, through the tribulation that they are undergoing."

EDWARD MASON.

Fennville, Mich.

'Tis Sabbath eve, the religious services of the day are over and I sit down to see what good news is contained in the EVANGELIST, that welcome visitor to our home. There is good news of Church work all over our Brotherhood. It is encouraging indeed. I feel that the Lord is blessing us in our church work.

I feel glad that Bro. Brown speaks a word of encouragement to us in our Sabbath school work, for we need it. We are away out here on Pine-plains, Mich. Came out here from Louisville, Ohio, where we had such a flourishing Sunday school, but we felt that the folks here needed Sabbath school too, so went at it, organized in the school house and went to work. It is the first Sunday school that has ever been held here and we are being amply paid for our trouble. The Lord is blessing our work. We now number forty scholars beside officers and teachers, and amongst them there is only ten that are members of churches, but the children are becoming so interested and are enjoying this new work so that 'tis encouraging indeed, and I feel glad that our lot is cast where the work of the Master is so much needed. Our doctrine is not known here; brother and sister Ream and ourselves being the only members of the Brethren church here, and it appears to awaken quite an interest in their minds when we talk to them of how we observe the ordinances of the Lord's house. I believe there could be a great work done here. Of the ten church member in our school, some are Lutheran, some Methodist, some Evangelical, some Baptist, some Brethren, quite a mixture for so few; but we feel united, and in union there is strength and the good work goes on.

Brother Mallott, I do sympathize with you in your bereavment. God bless and comfort you. I know by sad experience what it is to be bereft of our dear ones. When I read your appeal to the readers of the EVANGELIST for sympathy, my heart overflowed and the bitter tear of sorrow were freely shed. But the same loving Savior that comforted Mary and Martha at the grave of Lazarus will comfort us.

Bro. Holsinger: we remember you in our prayers. May the Lord bless and comfort you in your arduous task. Wishing the EVANGELIST God speed, I will close.

CORNELIA SNYDER.

Bracken, Ind.

The Master's cause is still moving, and the ship of Zion is drifting toward the harbor with passengers getting on board, starting for the better land.

Yesterday two were added by baptism and one by relation.

Slowly but surely we are climbing the mountain one by one; we ascend the hill.

We never preach at Bracken, but it brings so vividly to our minds the scenes of childhood and happy days that have gone by. But these joys return when we see our associates return to our Father's house. Bro. R. Binkley was with us at these services and preached for us Sunday night. Bro. R. B. ought to be out in the field while the cry is coming from every quarter: Come over and help us. Gird on the armor and like the shephard's boy meeting the giant Goliath in the name of Israel's God, we'll go on.

Bro. R. K. Binkley was our co-laborer in the G. B. church and it is a pleasure to me to have his associations and help in the Brethren church.

God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform.

"The arm of faith, the chords of love
Binds hearts and souls together.
O may we live and strive to move
On down lifes peaceful river."

May the dew of heaven fall gently ore the fold at Bracken and elswhere to the promotion of the cause of Christ.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

Parade and Work.

Parade and pomp have a great deal of influence in this world, but permanent results are accomplished by hard work. A thousand men equipped in all the glory of fuss and feathers, may strut around the streets, and march up the hill and then march down again, while the newspapers may report what a great time they had, and what great things they have done; but one little, barefooted, sunburnt boy, hoeing all day in the cornfield, may, when the harvest comes, have more to show as the result of his day's labor, than all the plumed paraders who so attract the public gaze.

It will be found that a very large proportion of the real work done for God and humanity in this world, is accomplished by these quiet and persistent workers, who make no reports, who are never seen on dress parade, but who still keep toiling on, seeking to finish the work that God has given them to do.

Great discoveries are not made by men crowds; useful inventions are not produced in mass-meetings; the world is not run by resolutions, nor are souls saved by great societies and associations. The Lord has given to "*every man his work*, and in the day of judgment the question will be, not how many organizations you have joined, or how much money you have subscribed and contributed, but what you have *personally* done in the cause of the Master. Annual reports will count but very little when the great God of heaven shall summon man to render up the last account. In that day, it will be found that every man shall bear his own burden; that no crowds will hide from the gaze of the all seeing eye, and that each must meet his own individual responsibility, in the presence of the Judge of quick and dead. Blessed are they who in that hour shall hear the Master say, "Well done!"—*The Christian.*